Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of the claims in the application.

1.(Original): A method for updating a configuration specification of a computer, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving an e-mail from an administrator containing location settings encoded in an attachment;

opening the attachment to the e-mail; and

writing location values corresponding to the location settings encoded in the attachment into the configuration specification of the computer.

2.(Original): A method as in claim 1, wherein the e-mail includes a designation of a location name corresponding to the configuration specification; and

wherein the configuration specification of the computer corresponds to the location name.

3.(Original): A method as in claim 1, wherein the location settings are generically defined so as to apply to a variety of operating systems.

4.(Original): A method as in claim 3, further comprising the steps of:

determining an operating system type for the computer; and

generating the location values by interpreting the location settings for the operating system type for the computer.

5.(Original): A method as in claim 4, wherein the interpreting step is performed by referring to program logic which translates the location settings into location values as a function of the operating system type for the computer.

6.(Original): A method as in claim 5, wherein the location settings specify internet settings.

7.(Previously amended):   A method as in claim 5, wherein the location settings specify an internet protocol address, a domain name server configuration, a gateway, and a WINS configuration.

8.(Original):   A method as in claim 5, wherein the location settings specify dialing settings or local area network settings.

9.(Original).   A method for providing a user's client computer with configuration settings, the method comprising the steps of:

   specifying a location name for the user's client computer;

   specifying location settings corresponding to the location name;

   creating an e-mail addressed to the user having the location settings encoded in an attachment; and

   sending the e-mail to the user.

10.(Original): A method as in claim 9, wherein the location settings are generically defined so as to apply to a variety of operating systems.

11.(Original): A method as in claim 10, wherein the location settings specify internet settings.

12.(Original): A method as in claim 10, wherein the location settings specify an internet protocol address, a domain name server configuration, a gateway, and a WINS configuration.

13.(Original): A method as in claim 10, wherein the location settings specify dialing settings or local area network settings.

14.(Original): A computer readable storage medium, comprising:

   computer readable program code embodied on said computer readable storage medium, said computer readable program code for programming a computer to perform a method for a updating a configuration specification of a computer, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving an e-mail from an administrator containing location settings encoded in an attachment;

opening the attachment to the e-mail; and

writing location values corresponding to the location settings encoded in the attachment into the configuration specification of the computer.

15.(Original): A computer readable storage medium as in claim 14, wherein the e-mail includes a designation of a location name corresponding to the configuration specification; and

wherein the configuration specification of the computer corresponds to the location name.

16.(Original): A computer readable storage medium as in claim 14, wherein the location settings are generically defined so as to apply to a variety of operating systems.

17.(Original): A computer readable storage medium as claim 16, the method further comprising the steps of:

determining an operating system type for the computer; and

generating the location values by interpreting the location settings for the operating system type for the computer.

18.(Previously amended): A computer readable storage medium as in claim 17, wherein the interpreting step is performed by referring to program logic which translates the location settings into location values as a function of the operating system type for the computer.

19.(Original): A computer readable storage medium as in claim 18, wherein the location settings specify internet settings.

20.(Previously amended): A computer readable storage medium as in claim 18, wherein the location settings specify an internet protocol address, a domain name server configuration, a gateway, and a WINS configuration.

21.(Original): A computer readable storage medium as in claim 18, wherein the location settings specify dialing settings or local area network settings.

22.(Original): A computer readable storage medium, comprising:

computer readable program code embodied on said computer readable storage medium, said computer readable program code for programming a computer to perform a method for providing a user's client computer with configuration settings, the method comprising the steps of:

specifying a location name for the user's client computer;

specifying location settings corresponding to the location name;

creating an e-mail addressed to the user having the location settings encoded in an attachment; and

sending the e-mail to the user.

23.(Original): A computer readable storage medium as in claim 22, wherein the location settings are generically defined so as to apply to a variety of operating systems.

24.(Original): A computer readable storage medium as in claim 23, wherein the location settings specify internet settings.

25.(Original): A computer readable storage medium as in claim 23, wherein the location settings specify an internet protocol address, a domain name server configuration, a gateway, and a WINS configuration.

26.(Original): A computer readable storage medium as in claim 23, wherein the location settings specify dialing settings or local area network settings.

27.(New): A method for updating a configuration specification of a computer, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving an e-mail from an administrator containing location settings encoded in an attachment;

opening the attachment to the e-mail; and

writing location values corresponding to the location settings encoded in the attachment into the configuration specification of the computer, wherein the location settings are selectable during computer startup by the user.

28.(New):   A method as in claim 27, wherein the e-mail includes a designation of a location name corresponding to the configuration specification; and

wherein the configuration specification of the computer corresponds to the location name.

29.(New):   A method as in claim 27, wherein the location settings are generically defined so as to apply to a variety of operating systems.

30.(New):   A method as in claim 29, further comprising the steps of:

determining an operating system type for the computer; and

generating the location values by interpreting the location settings for the operating system type for the computer.

31.(New):   A method as in claim 30, wherein the interpreting step is performed by referring to program logic which translates the location settings into location values as a function of the operating system type for the computer.

32.(New):   A method as in claim 31, wherein the location settings specify internet settings.

33.(New):   A method as in claim 31, wherein the location settings specify an internet protocol address, a domain name server configuration, a gateway, and a WINS configuration.

34.(New):   A method as in claim 31, wherein the location settings specify dialing settings or local area network settings.